



ASSEL ISMOLDAYEVA
A student browses artwork at the Back to School Vendor Fair held Sept. 5 in front of the Student Center.

IN SHORT

General ticket sales for FallFEST will begin today at 12 a.m. Early bird tickets are already available for MIT students.

The Student Lending Art Program has an open exhibition for the available artworks to borrow on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 12–6 p.m. and Thursdays 12–8 p.m. Enter the lottery by Sunday.

UA committee applications are due Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 11:59 p.m.

Sign up to volunteer for **Fall Career Fair**, which will take place Friday, Sept. 21 in the Johnson Athletic Center.

The UROP direct funding deadline is 5 p.m. Sept. 20.

Interested in **joining The Tech**? Stop by for dinner Sunday at 6 p.m.

Send news and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

Office of Vice Chancellor reorganized, new Office of the First Year established

*OVC currently looking into reducing time between
end of finals and graduation from two weeks to one*

By Zoe Anderson

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Office of the Vice Chancellor has reorganized its internal offices, disbanded the Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming (UAAP) office, and created an Office of the First Year, effective July 1.

The changes were announced internally last March, and its implementation will probably be a year-long process, Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz told *The Tech* in an interview.

The Office of the First Year now contains orientation and advising (previously under UAAP) and the first-year learning communities (previously under the Office of Experiential Learning). Waitz expects new programs to be under it as well, as MIT makes changes to the first year.

The OVC was created July 2017 by Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart, unifying the Offices of the Deans for Undergraduate and Graduate Education. The goal of the unification was to catalyze change efforts, Waitz said.

The main goals of the office are improving the first year, increasing professional development opportunities (especially for graduate students), improving advising, and implementing the recommendations of the 2014 Institute-wide Task Force on the Future of MIT Education, Waitz said.

Reducing the time between the end of finals and graduation from two weeks to one is another goal of the OVC, according to the office's report and an email from Waitz to *The Tech*. The two-week time period pushes graduation into the first week of June, causing students who rent housing to have to pay another month's rent, and affecting when students can start their post-graduation plans, such as jobs, internships, and vacations, Waitz wrote.

"We think the time is longer than it needs to be from an administrative perspective, and we would rather recoup that time and give it to students, faculty, and staff... (in addition to saving some students money)," Waitz wrote. "[OVC has] only begun to look at options for doing this."

Some parts of the office's previous organizational structure did not make sense, Waitz said. UROP, the most experiential learning program at MIT, was not under OEL, but under UAAP. It has moved to OEL. UAAP (despite its name) actually focused on the first year, with programs including orientation and first-year advising. The First-Year Learning Communities, however, were not under UAAP.

The International Students Office, which serves both undergraduate and graduate students, was under the Office of Graduate

Education; it now reports directly to the OVC. Issues facing international students "have gotten much more prominent — the challenges we have with visas and [other] things — so this was one that I sought to have directly report to me," Waitz said.

The Global Education office, formerly part of GECD, has moved to OEL. Professional development resources for career-related skills such as negotiation and leadership are expanding and will be part of the new Career Advising and Professional Development office.

OVC will also work closely with the Teaching and Learning Laboratory (T+LL), which will expand and be at the "conceptual center of the organization," Waitz said. T+LL works in making changes to classes, teaching styles, and teaching assessments. It was highly involved in the implementation of TEAL for introductory physics classes, according to Waitz.

The OVC report identifies improving advising as a priority and T+LL as key to this process. "This collective effort is still in the nascent stage," Ryan MacDowell, communications strategist and project coordinator for T+LL, wrote in an email to *The Tech*. The group is small — ten staff — but will be expanding, according to Waitz and the OVC report.

OVC, Page 2

Simmons and Maseeh remain top choices in lottery and FYRE

Renovated New House attains lowest FYRE-out to -in ratio

By Derek Yen

Simmons, Maseeh, and Baker have remained the most popular choices for the First Year Housing Lottery this year, as with last year. In this year's First Year Residence Exchange (FYRE), which was completed Aug. 29, New House, Simmons, and Maseeh sported the lowest FYRE-out to FYRE-in ratios, while McCormick, MacGregor and East Campus had the highest.

"FYRE is the opportunity for students to, after the First Year [Housing] Lottery happens, switch into a different building if they arrive here at campus and find that they want to live in a different building," Jennifer Hapgood-White, director of residential services, said in an interview with *The Tech*. "It gives them the opportunity to make that switch before classes and academics really start."

About 12 percent of the Class of 2022 utilized FYRE this year, which

is comparable to last year's rate of 11 percent. Of the 139 first years who utilized FYRE, 64 percent moved — an increase from the 59 percent move rate in 2017.

In terms of total number of applications submitted, the most first-years wished to FYRE into Maseeh, followed by Simmons and Burton Conner, and the most first-years wished to FYRE out of MacGregor, followed by East Campus and Burton Conner.

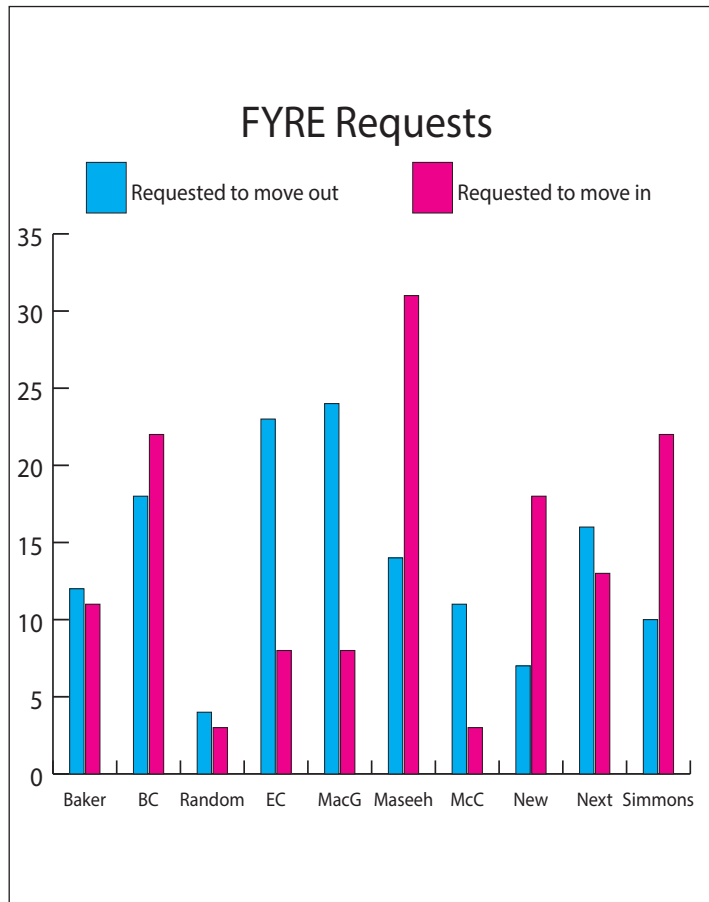
This year's First Year Housing Lottery and FYRE were the first after the complete reopening of New House. Last year, New House was undergoing renovations and partially closed. This year, about 60 percent more students chose New House as their first choice as compared to 2016 and 2015, and New House sported the lowest FYRE-out to FYRE-in ratio this year.

"As my personal opinion, I would guess that a brand-new

building has some draw," Hapgood-White said. "Any time you open something new and create a new space with new air conditioning, new lounge spaces, new everything, it draws more people to it. I also noticed students in New House were very active in trying to get people to want to live in their house."

FYRE data referenced in this piece was provided to *The Tech* by the Division of Student Life.

"FYRE represents something really important in MIT housing, which is choice," Matt Bauer, director of communications for the Division of Student Life, said in an interview with *The Tech*. "FYRE is a rare and special thing, and a pleasure for us to work with students from the housing side to give them the opportunity to find what they perceive as being the right fit for them in terms of their living situation."



IVANA ALARDIN—THE TECH

Maseeh, Simmons, and Burton Conner were the most popular.

FROM ENGINEER TO LEGION M PRESIDENT

Weighing your career options? Meet Jeff Anison, who talks Legion M and upcoming film *Mandy*. **ARTS, p. 4**

TEN THINGS

A class of '87 alum tells new students what she wishes she'd known when she came to MIT. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5**

CALL 999

Nine tips for spending the summer abroad. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5**



BUILD-AN-AQUARIUM

Go big or go home. Manage your aquarium today in PC game *Mega-aquarium*. **ARTS, p. 4**

NEED ADVICE?

Submit questions for *The Tech*'s advice columnist, Auntie Matter, at tinyurl.com/AskAuntieMatter. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5**

SECTIONS

Arts 4
Campus Life 5
Fun Pages 6



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Thursdays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations) and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$50.00 per year (third class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2018 *The Tech*. Printed by Turley Publications, Inc.

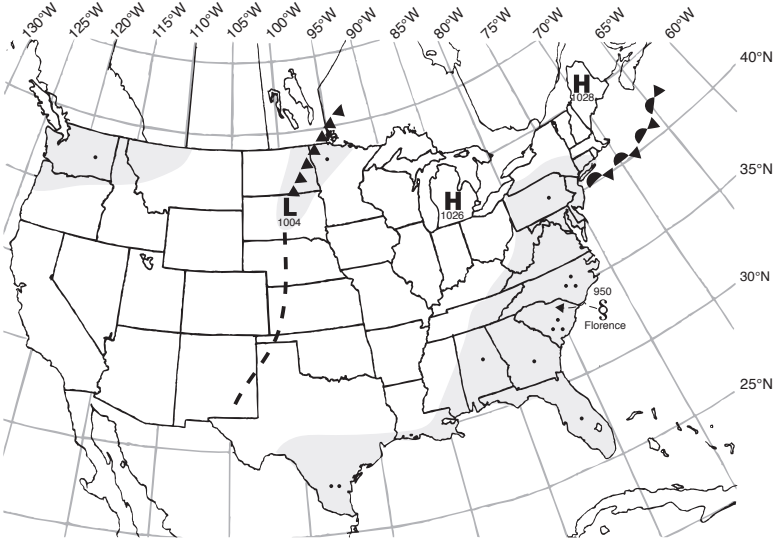
WEATHER

Pleasant weather locally, Florence to impact the Southeast coast

By Jordan Benjamin
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Following days of cloudy and rainy weather, the sun will finally return to the Northeast tomorrow. Temperatures will remain seasonable, with highs in the 70s °F, lows near 60 °F, but above normal humidity. Although the details are not yet clear, hotter weather may return during the middle of next week. The bigger weather story is Hurricane Florence, which will approach the Carolina coast Friday morning — potentially as major hurricane. The storm is expected to slow its forward motion as it approaches the coast, much

like Hurricane Harvey did in Texas last year. This could bring an extended period of heavy rain, wind, and storm surge to much of the Carolinas through Sunday with the potential for devastating flooding. Over a million people have been instructed to evacuate in advance of the hurricane’s impacts. A separate disturbance is developing over the southwestern part of the Gulf of Mexico, and might become a tropical depression before making landfall in Texas over the weekend. However, unlike Florence this year and Harvey last year, its impacts should be constrained to heavy rain and minor flooding.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, September 13, 2018

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain	Thunderstorm
Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	
		Heavy	

Extended Forecast

Today: Showers ending. Mostly cloudy with a high around 72°F (22°C). Winds NE at around 5 mph.
Tonight: Clouds clearing. Low around 63°F (17°C). Winds E at around 5 mph.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High around 74°F (23°C). Low around 60°F (16°C). Winds E at around 5 mph.
Saturday: Mostly sunny. High around 78°F (26°C). Low around 60°F (16°C).
Sunday: Mostly sunny. High around 80°F (27°C).

Office of Experiential Learning aims to integrate student opportunities

OVC, from Page 1

Waitz agreed that these administrative reorganizations often do not directly impact students, but said that he hoped the collecting of related offices would improve

students’ experiences. He also added that the reorganization is intended to help MIT do a better job in making long term changes that will benefit students.

“When students are looking for UROPs, or PKG, or MISTI, or

D-lab things, it’s four different webpages and it’s not really connected in a really clear way. The hope is that with an Office of Experiential Learning, we’ll be able to provide a more integrated entryway for students,” Waitz said, as

an example.

Waitz also said that OVC is working on expanding the for-credit opportunities that are available, especially PKG opportunities. PKG has been moved from DSL to OEL.



CHELSEA WATANABE

MIT #5, Amanda Garofalo ’21, attempts to get the ball past two defenders from the University of New England Sept. 8.

Solution to Pretenses
from page 6

D	A	M	P	A	P	A	S	B	O	N	E	S					
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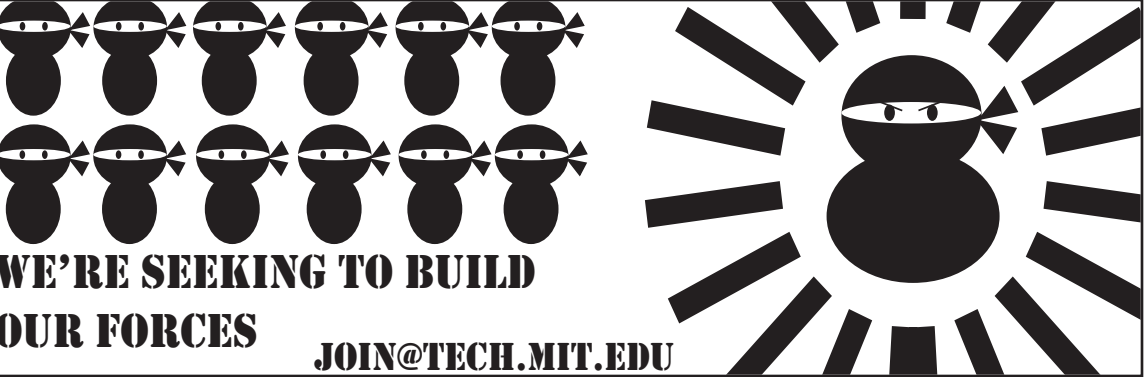


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Solution to Piazza
from page 6

1	5	6	3	2	4
5	3	4	1	6	2
4	2	3	6	5	1
6	4	5	2	1	3
3	1	2	5	4	6
2	6	1	4	3	5

Solution to Office Hours
from page 6

1	5	7	3	9	2	6	4	8
9	8	4	6	1	5	2	7	3
3	2	6	4	8	7	5	1	9
5	6	2	1	7	3	9	8	4
8	1	3	9	2	4	7	6	5
7	4	9	5	6	8	3	2	1
2	3	8	7	4	9	1	5	6
6	7	5	8	3	1	4	9	2
4	9	1	2	5	6	8	3	7



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INTERVIEW

Legion M and the future of production

MANDY and the evolution of production companies

MANDY

Directed by Panos Cosmatos

Screenplay by Panos Cosmatos, Aaron Stewart-Ahn

Starring Nicolas Cage, Andrea Riseborough, Linus Roache, Bill Duke, Richard Brake

Not Rated

Playing Sept. 14, 2018

By Alexander Jerome Sandberg

There's of course the movie MANDY coming out, featuring Nicolas Cage. What role did Legion M play in that production? It seems that you were involved with the music, but what role did you play at large?

We got a look at this relatively early. They came to us when it was just in the script stage, and we read the script. Ultimately, we invested in the film, and like you said, we invested partially in the film and partially in the soundtrack. The main producer of this film is Elijah Wood's company, which is called

Spectrevison, and we heard from them really early on, and they dug what we were doing, and they understood it, and they liked the idea, and we were looking for a project. [...] We got the official merchandising rights; we're working with the Legion to organize meetups around the country to support it. It's been a great trip. [...] Everybody sets out to make a great movie, but by definition, only a slim percentage end up achieving greatness. We saw it for the first time at Sundance, like — literally, the guy brought the reel off a plane and hand delivered it to the projectionist so that they could play it, and we saw it for

the first time. And it's a wild — it's kind of *out there*. [...]

It ended up being one of the two best reviewed films at Sundance, having a 100 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, then it went up at Cannes and got a four-minute standing ovation, so we're super excited to get it out there, to showcase this emerging talent Panos Cosmatos. Nicolas Cage has, in this movie — I won't spoil it, but you'll know when you see it — but he has this scene in this movie that will go down in history as one of the greatest Nic Cage scenes of all time. He is amazing in this movie. It is like Nicolas Cage playing Nicolas Cage turned up to 11.

I'm looking forward to it! Building on that, do you guys have a guiding philosophy behind what types of movies you want to support?

We went out and wanted to recruit the most passionate fans, so we started at Comic Con and film festivals like Sundance. And it's funny, because in some sense those represent polar opposites, you know? [...] The common thread, though, if you go to both of those is that the people love movies. They're passionate about creativity, and it's actually remarkable. Even though the products themselves are kind of polar opposites, the DNA — the audiences that go there —

are actually similar. For us, it's really about finding something that we think is going to resonate with the Legion. So it tends to be stuff that's more creative, it tends to be something like — you could do a panel at Comic Con about it. [...] Because at the end of the day, *Nosferatu* in its time was considered "out there," the stuff we study in school are people that have innovative ideas. So that's one of the things that we really value, which is why we thought this was such a good fit.

As a wrap-up question, are there any upcoming projects you can tease for our readers? Anything you can talk about?

Well, if you go to our website you can see the dozen or so projects that we've publicly revealed. If you join the Legion — it doesn't cost anything, we're actually not open for investment right now — we do this thing called the Legion M pulse: every month or so, we send out a questionnaire asking what they're watching, what projects they'd like to see, what projects we've been working on. So we do plan to make a big announcement at New York Comic Con and another one at Los Angeles Comic Con.

Editor's note: a longer version of this interview was published online at thetech.com.

Becoming the tycoon of aquariums

Megaquarium combines strategy with business management



An aquarium visitor watches a shark tank.

By Nathan Liang
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Inspired by classic theme park management games, *Megaquarium* is a game all about building and managing the biggest and best aquariums around. Starting off as a mere enthusiast, you're assigned the job of bringing an old, abandoned aquarium back to life. Once you establish your status as a

skilled aquarium manager, you are offered more distinguished tasks such as building an aquarium for a well-known architect.

Presented in a relaxing atmosphere, the game's tutorial guides you through the many, many mechanics that you'll encounter, at your own pace. You learn how to handle each management aspect by completing objectives so that you're not overwhelmed by all the demands at once. You learn how

to build first. Then, once you're comfortable with that, you're taught how to procure fish, how to build tanks that will meet their living needs, and how to keep them alive. And it continues on, and on until you have learned everything you need to know in order to build, maintain, and expand your aquarium.

Aside from the easily navigable interface, the controls take some getting used to but are also not particularly hard to learn. The only control I had a particularly hard time with was the use of the "Home" key to return to the entrance of the aquarium. Generally, the "Home" key is almost never used in day-to-day life, much less in the context of video games. It probably took me too long to figure out how to complete the objective of snapping back to the aquarium entrance because of this obscure control. I wished there had been a way to change the key configuration for the game just so players could have a more comfortable experience learning the game's many controls and features.

Aesthetically, *Megaquarium* is simple. The graphics are nothing compared to current big game titles like *Assassin's Creed* and the recently released *Marvel's Spider-Man*, but they're appropriate for the basic premise of *Megaquarium*. It's also satisfying to watch empty tanks fill with the colorful swaths of fish, coral, and other marine life available

★★★★☆

Megaquarium

Developed by Twice Circled

Available on PC

for discovery in the game, and it's fulfilling to watch your assigned aquarium expand from a singular modest space to a sprawling, multi-chambered aquatic spectacle.

The soundtrack divulges the whimsical, light-hearted mood of the game. Repeatedly playing in the background as you build and manage your aquariums, it's similar to the music you'd hear at an amusement park: familiar, cheerful, and constantly looping. You could even imagine it as the background music your aquarium visitors, while marveling at the tanks filled with aquatic life, hear as they go about their day.

Recommended for killing time in a low-stress environment, *Megaquarium* is a game I'll likely return to time and time again to do just that.

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ADVICE

Friendship formation fears

Auntie Matter on new beginnings and big transitions

By Auntie Matter

If you have questions for Auntie Matter, please submit them at tinyurl.com/AskAuntieMatter. Questions have been edited for length, clarity, and content.

*Dear Auntie Matter,
I want to join some clubs, but I'm worried about overcommitting and I'm also shy about just walking into the clubs. Should I join something my first semester or wait until I am a little more settled? How do I overcome the shyness?*

— Fearful Frosh

*Dear Auntie Matter,
I'm a senior and I'm really nervous because I'll be in different cities than all my friends next year. What do I do?*

— Senior, Soon Solo

Dear Frosh and Senior,
The advice Auntie would give to either of you individually is obvious and, frankly, cliché. Frosh, go out of your comfort zone and join some clubs. You can quit one or two later if you overcommit. It will be okay. Senior, learn to use a telephone, but also trust that you will make new friends

wherever you relocate. Join local interest groups or sports leagues, talk to people in coffee shops, or maybe even try apps for finding friends. Be open to new things and people.

Auntie writes to you together because of the parallels in your situations. You both face major changes in your lives and new scenarios you aren't sure how to navigate. The only way to get through is to keep moving forward. If you allow yourself to be paralyzed by dread, you won't join any clubs and you won't make new friends. You need to introduce yourself bravely to new people and embrace the unfamiliar for a time until you can create a new life for yourself, whether you're just starting college or you're venturing into real adult life.

The truth in a larger sense is that we worry about things we can't control or predict. We cannot control or predict how our friendships will change, or how they will form, or how we will adapt to a new environment. It is difficult to accept that you do not have full control over whether or not you get something you desperately want, be it friendship, love, or anything else. Auntie takes seriously the pain this sort of anxiety can cause, yet it is still better to go through life knowing this sort of deep

yearning than to go without it. Your yearning is a demonstration of something characteristically human within you, something that connects you to everyone who has ever wanted a friend. Though wanting the good things is painful, it is still preferable to not knowing what the good things are. In your case, even though you cannot control your situation, the only way you will have a chance at a desirable outcome is to be proactive. Even if it goes terribly, you will have done your best, which is the only thing you can ever do.

*Dear Auntie Matter,
I met this group of people I want to make friends with, but every time I hang out with them I feel like I'm always on the edge and don't really belong there. What should I do?*

— Waving through a Window

Dear Waving,
Auntie sees three possibilities here: this group is deliberately causing you discomfort, you need to allow time to become better friends with them, or you just don't click with the group.

Your course of action if the group is deliberately causing you discomfort is fairly clear. You should leave. The difficult part

is determining whether or not they are doing so. In most cases, you should assume they are not trying to make you uncomfortable, as it is the least likely of the three possibilities mentioned above, but if they do things like ceasing to talk when you enter or talking about you behind your back, you might want to bail.

Another possibility is that it can take time to get to know a new group of friends. Auntie suspects that you are a frosh, and it can be doubly difficult in that case. You are meeting many new people, and you are likely far away from most people that you knew before. It can take several months or more to develop entirely new circles of friends.

Lastly, you do not have to click with every group. Even if you thought they were cool initially, they might not actually have that much in common with you. This group was but one proverbial school of fish; there are more in the sea.

As in all things, Auntie believes that you will be okay. There are many people at MIT and beyond to befriend. Dear letter-writer, worry not what the outcome of this specific friend group will be. You will find your place here or elsewhere, or you will die alone. Either way, it will all be over in about 80 years. Give or take.

BY THE NUMBERS

Nine tips about spending the summer abroad

Know the emergency number, at the very least

By Josephine Yu
EDITOR

I spent this past summer in Cambridge, England doing an IROP. From learning differences between British and American English to visiting the hospital, I can definitely say I had a blast. Here are some tips if you ever decide to spend the summer abroad;

1. Learn the language! I spent my summer in England, so I was thankfully spared from a language barrier...except not really. They call "flashlights"

- "torches," and they call "arugula" "rocket." Imagine my confusion when offered a "rocket salad." Like I said, learn the language.
2. Google Maps is your best friend. Not only does it tell you where it's legal to bike, walk, and drive, it also lets you re-route to include a grocery pitstop on the way home.
3. Don't be shy — meet people! Over the summer, I met PhD students hailing from Switzerland, Austria, and China who all had very different perspectives on life than the classic MIT student.

4. Know the emergency number in your country. As someone who had to go to the hospital (for an ankle sprain, don't worry), I regret not knowing beforehand what the 9-1-1 equivalent is.
5. Know the time difference between your time zone and your home time zone. Calling your parents or friends at 4 a.m. doesn't go over too well.
6. Depending on where you are, you might develop the habit to look the wrong way when crossing the street. Remember to switch back when you return to the U.S.!

7. If you get the chance, try the local favorites. In Cambridge, for example, kebabs and falafel are incredibly popular (and really good).
8. Also visit the grocery store and buy something. A lot of the time, it's a little more telling about the culture than the restaurants, especially if you're centered in a tourist-dense location.
9. Lastly, explore in your own way. Everyone adapts to new environments differently, and if your way is to sit on a park bench and people-watch or to go out clubbing, do it!

BY THE NUMBERS

The top ten things I wish I'd known when I came to MIT

From an alum to new students

By Susan Gendreau

1. Your goal here is not a degree. Your goal is to learn how to think independently. If all you learn at MIT is how to get A's and please professors, you'll be a drone.
2. You need kick-ass study skills. If you've ever coasted on your brains, read A Mind for Numbers.
3. You need sleep. And food. And especially exercise. These pay for themselves in increased productivity.
4. There is no such thing as too orga-

- nized. Getting Things Done (the first edition, not the bloated second) is a good system. But more important than which system you use is that you have a system and use it.
5. Studying in groups is more effective than studying solo.
6. Shower, brush, and floss daily.
7. Staff are your allies. Be very nice to them.
8. Cultivate an interest that has nothing to do with your field. People who only know one thing are boring.
9. Learn from everyone around you. If

- you think someone has nothing to teach you, you're wrong.
10. You are not your major, your grades, or your research. What do you want? Why do you want it? How — specifically — will MIT help you get to it? Whatever you're studying here, there are easier ways to make a living. You need to love what you're doing, know why you love it, and know what you want to accomplish with it. Your goals in life will probably change during your time here, which is fine. But if you don't have goals — and most people don't — then the first

chance you get, sit down alone somewhere. Think out what you want from your career and your life — next year, in five years, in ten. Why do you want it? Will what you're doing every day help to get you there? Map out your path, with benchmarks and timelines. Think it out again every vacation, because change. Then make sure everything you do helps you toward your goals. Everything. Good luck, and have fun.

Susan Gendreau, PhD (Course V) '87, has done her best to avoid dronehood. She occasionally writes for The Tech.

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Solution, page 8

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Solution, page 8

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Pretenses by Fred Piscop

Solution, page 8

ACROSS

- 1 River blocker
- 4 Dads
- 9 Common dog biscuit shapes
- 14 Memorable period
- 15 Praise highly
- 16 Get out of bed
- 17 Horse's track record
- 20 Woodwind instrument
- 21 Fit for purchase
- 22 Fire-starting twigs
- 25 Part of the psyche
- 26 Altar assent
- 29 __ in "Stockholm"
- 30 Gone With the Wind home
- 33 Flew like an eagle
- 35 Wide-mouthed wine bottle
- 37 Edible ice-cream container
- 38 Right now
- 42 Mr. Flintstone
- 43 Filled in at the office
- 44 Condensed story
- 47 Assign stars to
- 48 Faux __ (misstep)
- 51 Parisian pal

- 52 "In what way?"
54 Slow walk
56 Train stop
60 Shortest-named continent
61 Part of some pro football
trades
65 Change formally
66 Barbershop quartet voice
67 Put a knot in
68 Takes a risk
69 Baloney
70 Feeling mopy

DOWN

- 1 Train stops
- 2 Saudi __ (Mideast land)
- 3 Bricks-and-mortar workers
- 4 Get-up-and-go
- 5 Firefighter's implement
- 6 Golf scorecard numbers
- 7 __ Romeo (Italian auto)
- 8 Swiped
- 9 Panda's diet
- 10 Word-of-mouth
- 11 Club for approach shots

- 12 "Cancel" PC key
13 Comprehend
18 Actor Danson
19 Dustcloths
23 Flight board figs.
24 Very hard to find
27 Fender ding
28 Poem of tribute
31 Go on a tirade
32 Fairy tale closer
34 Scored 100 on
35 Relinquish legally
36 Actress Watson or Stone
38 Strait-laced
39 Enroll
40 Selects, with "for"
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42 Meds-monitoring agcy.
45 Pottery fragments
46 Lug around
48 Assumes to be true
49 Pop singer Keys
50 Satisfied, as thirst
53 Shoebox datum
55 Kanye West's music

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68						69						70		

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|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 57 Melody | example |
| 58 Top-selling cookie | 62 Thurman of films |
| 59 Prefix meaning "billionth" | 63 Enemy |
| 61 Fidget spinners, for | 64 Take a crack at |

[533] Laptop Hell



**A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,
SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE**

by Randall Munroe



The kxcd.com sysadmin has a Q2010, and I can attest that it can handle a fall down several flight of concrete steps. Relatedly, he's upset with me – I hope he doesn't take revenge by messing with my site's contentDISREGARD THAT I SUCK COCKS

ch's MLB Ch

By The Tech Sports staff

e MLB Postseason. In the American League, th
Series against Minnesota with ease to advan
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against the Tampa Bay.
e, the Philadelphia Phillies swept Cincinnati
ng a ho-hitter by Roy Halladay. They face the
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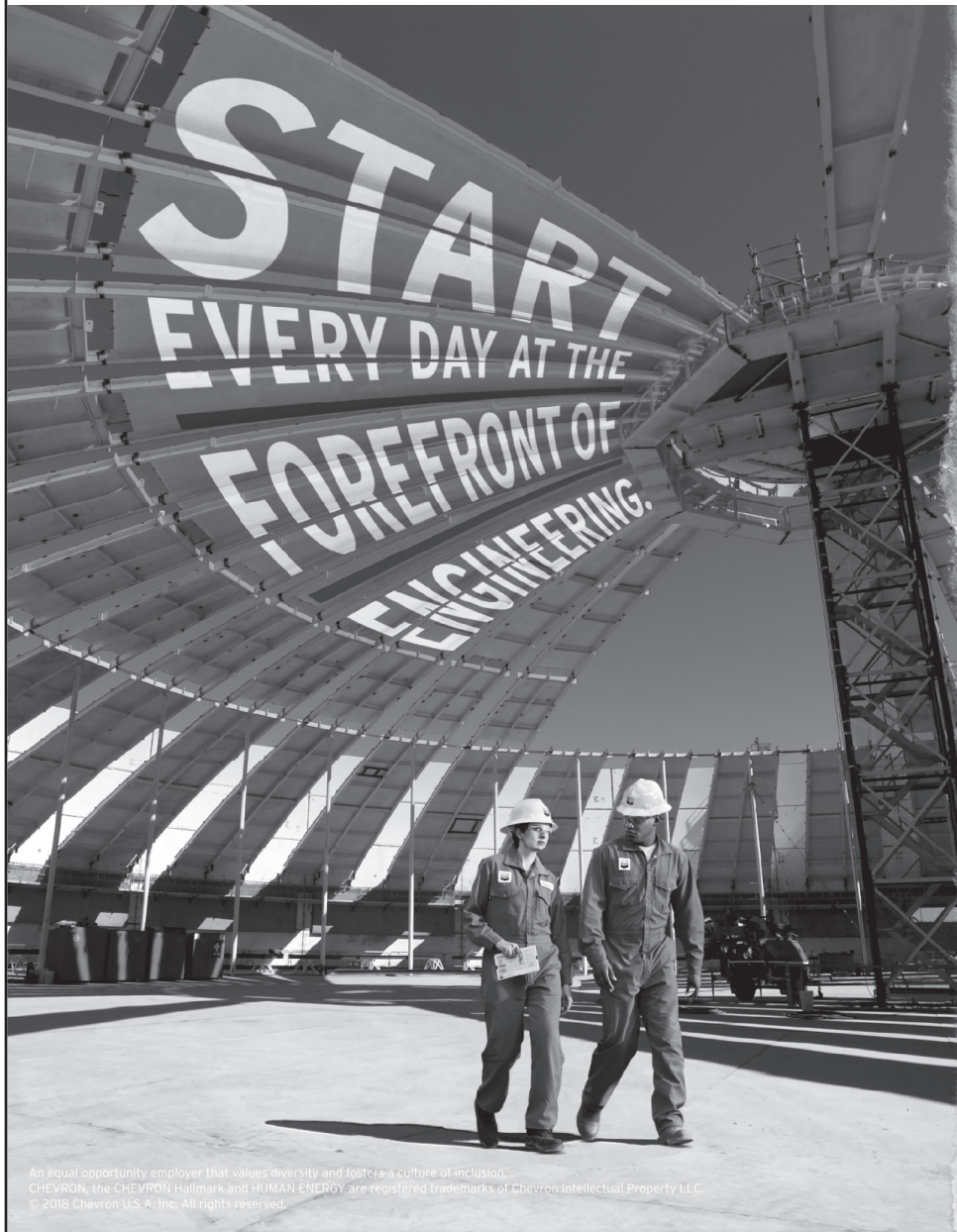
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SHEILA WIDNALL
(Report Co-Chair), aerospace researcher and
Institute Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ANITA HILL
MIT Research Affiliate
Professor, Brandeis University

PAULA JOHNSON
(Report Co-Chair),
President, Wellesley College

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